

Remarks

Claims 1, 5, 7, 9-11 and 16 are pending in the application and stand rejected. Claims 2-4, 6, 8 and 12-15 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Objections to the claims

Withdrawal of the objection to claim 7 is respectfully requested in view of the amendment thereto set forth above.

Claim rejections

Section 112

Claim 5-9 and 11 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 6 and 8 have been canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 5, 7 and 9 is respectfully requested in view of the amendment to claim 5 set forth above to delete "on an operating system."

Further, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 11 is respectfully requested since it no longer recites "comparing." However, it observed that, notwithstanding, recitation of "comparing" is fully supported. It is well-settled that the claims as originally filed form part of the disclosure. See, e.g., MPEP 2163.06(III). Moreover, attention is drawn to paragraph 16 of the present specification, which begins: "If the application icon id of the currently highlighted icon and that of the icon currently pointed to are the same ...". The latter clearly indicates a comparing operation since a sameness or difference in two things is determined.

Section 102

Claims 1-10 and 12-16 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Screen Dumps of Microsoft Office 2000 ("MS Office"). Of these claims, claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 16 remain pending. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 16. The cited Screen Dumps cannot support the asserted rejection for at least the reason that the Screen Dumps do not disclose displaying and

selecting from among (or swapping between) running applications as recited in independent claims 1, 5 and 16.

The Examiner cites "mouse selection/input of graphical icon 320" as shown in the Screen Dumps as corresponding to displaying and selecting from among running applications. The Applicant respectfully disagrees. Nothing in FIGURE 2, FIGURE 3 or FIGURE 4 of the Screen Dumps shows displaying and selecting from among running applications. Instead (accepting solely for purposes of discussion the Examiner's version of the sequence of keystrokes/mouse inputs and corresponding displays), at most the sequence of events shown in FIGUREs 2-4 only represents activating a "New Appointment" function of a single application, MS Office.

Moreover, nothing in the cited references discloses, for example, associating coordinates of a pointing device with one of a plurality of graphical icons corresponding to running applications, calculating a number of TAB key presses required to move from a currently highlighted icon to the icon associated with the coordinates, and highlighting the icon associated with the coordinates, as recited in each of the independent claims. Furthermore, the references are silent as to, for example, highlighting an icon from a plurality of displayed icons corresponding to running applications using either the TAB key or a mouse, as set forth in claims 5 and 16. Still further, the references do not disclose displaying graphical icons representing currently running applications in response an ALT+TAB keystroke, continuing to display the graphical icons after the ALT+TAB keys are released, and enabling the icons to be selected using either the TAB key or a mouse during a predetermined time period, as recited in claim 16.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 5 and 16 are allowable over the cited references. Claims 7, 9 and 10 depend on one of the independent claims and are therefore likewise allowable for at least the reasons discussed above. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 16 under 35 USC 102 is therefore respectfully requested.

### Section 103

Claim 11 was further rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Screen Dumps of Microsoft Office 2000 ("MS Office") in view of Screen Dumps of

Microsoft Windows Version 4.0 ("MS Win"). The Applicant respectfully traverses. Claim 11 depends on claim 5 and is therefore allowable over the art of record for at least the reasons discussed above. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 11 under 35 USC 103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

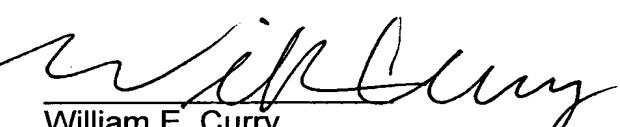
In light of the above discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in all aspects in allowable condition, and earnestly solicits favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4323 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is authorized to charge any fees related to this communication to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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